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**From:** Shirley Quinones [Quinones.Shirley@epamail.epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/1/2012 1:42:34 PM  
**To:** Jeannine Hale [Hale.Jeannine@epamail.epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: Corpus IWG planning mtg.- THURSDAY 3/1/12 9 AM - please sit in on this for us

will do

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**To:** Shirley Quinones/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Linda Falk/R6/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Cc:** Nelda Perez/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Israel Anderson/R6/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Date:** 02/29/2012 05:22 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: Corpus IWG planning mtg.- THURSDAY 3/1/12 9 AM - please sit in on this for us

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----- Forwarded by Jeannine Hale/R6/USEPA/US on 02/29/2012 05:18 PM -----

**Corpus IWG planning mtg.**

**Thu 03/01/2012 9:00 AM -  
10:00 AM**

Jeannine Hale

Chair: Sherri White/DC/USEPA/US

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Time zones:

This entry was created in a different time zone. The time in that time zone is: Thu 03/01/2012 10:00 AM EST11:00 AM EST

Federal IWG partners please join this call if you are available. I have included some background materials for your information. EPA R6 and I will coordinate on putting together a packet of information that will include anticipated questions that may be asked during the stakeholder dialogue.

Sherri

Call in: 866-299-3188

PIN: 2146652136

Corpus Christi's Refinery Row is a 10 mile stretch of heavy industry containing the largest cluster of major oil refineries in the United States. Located in this immense industrial district are classic Environmental Justice (EJ) communities. According to the 2000 census, the vast majority of the EJ residents along refinery row are people of color and low-income.

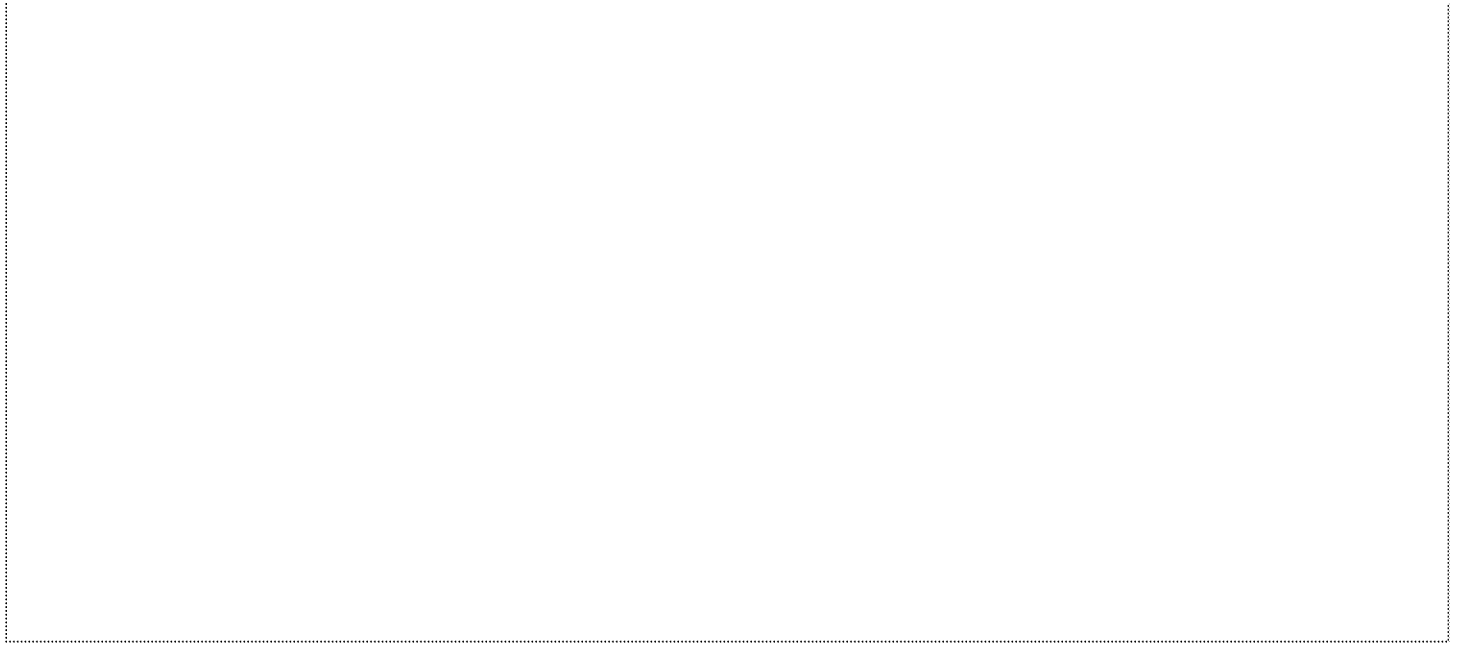
One such community, the Hillcrest community was originally affluent; however, in the late 1930s the refineries begin to be built in this eastern end of what is now referred to as refinery row, in turn, residents of this affluent community begin to move away from the heavy industry and the City zoned the area for African-Americans – a classic environmental racist situation.

The coming decades brought more refineries, supporting chemical plants and other facilities and additional communities sprung up in close proximity to industry, communities like Dona Park and Academy Heights. In the 1970s IH 37 was built. This compounded the problems for the refinery row residents as the highway methodically cut off these communities from the rest of Corpus Christi.

For several decades these communities have had to endure more than their fair share of pollution, health problems, explosions, fires, smoking flares, vibrations, contaminated groundwater and petroleum coke in their homes and property. Moreover most of the facilities store and use the deadly chemical hydrogen fluoride, a chemical capable of creating another Bhopal catastrophe. Because of events at neighboring facilities involving the release of HF, people live in constant fear of dying due to a release of this highly toxic chemical.

Through the years the topic of buy-outs has come and gone. In the late 1990s one fence-line community, the Oak Park Triangle community, was relocated by Citgo refinery, but still Hillcrest, Dona Park and Academy Heights and Tuloso Rd. remain.

It is our obligation to ensure that the residents of the EJ communities along refinery row that desire to relocate away from heavy industry at a fair price, be able to do so. Dr. Al Armendariz, US EPA Regional Administrator for Region 6 deemed that these communities are located too close to heavy industry [i]and that they bear more pollution than people that live away[ii]. The face of Corpus Christi's north side where refinery row is located will soon change due to the construction of a new Harbor Bridge. The Texas Department of Transportation (TXDot) cites one of the desired outcomes of building a new bridge that is higher in elevation than the existing one is to help local industry expand by bringing in larger ships[iii]. Therefore, the environmental fate for these already overburdened communities is bleak when you consider the cumulative impact of living by an expanding industrial district and the additional noise and pollution the new Harbor Bridge will inevitably bring.



[attachment "EJ report 2010.pdf" deleted by Shirley Quinones/R6/USEPA/US] [attachment "EJ report 2010.pdf" deleted by Shirley Quinones/R6/USEPA/US] [attachment "EJ report 2010.pdf" deleted by Shirley Quinones/R6/USEPA/US]